



Speech by

**Mr N. ROBERTS**

**MEMBER FOR NUDGE**

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Hansard 24 August 1999

### **BRISBANE AIRPORT PARALLEL RUNWAY**

**Mr ROBERTS** (Nudgee—ALP) (10.09 a.m.): If the Brisbane Airport Corporation Limited thinks it has mitigated discontent with its new proposal for a staggered parallel runway, it should think again. On the material available, the new proposal does nothing to help reduce noise impacts on suburbs neighbouring the airport, such as Banyo, Nudgee, Nudgee Beach, Northgate and Nundah. The BACL claims that the distance between the proposed runways has to be at least two kilometres to allow bidirectional take-offs and landings. The community and I know that this is an ambit claim based substantially on the commercial desires of the company for maximum flexibility in the airport's operation. If the airport were located in a desert, BACL's argument would have some weight. However, it is not and, accordingly, the neighbouring community is rightfully demanding that BACL pay as much attention to the social outcomes of its proposal as it has to the economic outcomes.

If the runway is to go ahead, BACL can and must move it further to the east. A further 500 metres to the east would still meet the international standard of a 1.5 kilometre runway separation. A repositioning further east would have little if any impact on the desired commercial development opportunities at the airport, which the community knows will deliver enormous economic benefits for Queensland. However, currently the price for such a development is too high. BACL's new proposal has reduced some of the impacts for southside communities. It should now do the decent thing by northside communities and move it a further 500 metres to the east.

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